

February 28, 1991 LB 699

CLERK: Senator Morrissey voting yes. Senator Rogers voting yes. Senator Wehrbein changing from no to yes. Senator Lamb voting yes. Senator Peterson voting yes.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 6 nays to cease debate, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We will cease debate and I'll call on Senator Rasmussen for closing.

SENATOR RASMUSSEN: I want to thank the body for the opportunity to present my case this morning to try and bring out a bill which I think has some very significant and very timely ideas in it. I guess my humbleness is only second to Senator Chambers in saying that this contains terrific ideas. They are ideas that we need to act on now and they shouldn't wait any longer. I really would like the opportunity for further discussion and exploration of how we could fund this if we don't want to do it through the one-cent sales tax created through 1059 on the sale of cars. I was driving down this morning on those roads. You need to realize that I'm spending better than 10 hours a week burning up over 500 miles a week on those highways. I want good ones too. I was riding down here this morning and I was talking to myself as I often do and I said, Senator, you're either a damn fool or a consummate optimist. I'm not quite prepared to go on record acknowledging that I'm a fool, but I will tell you that I am an optimist. And in case you're not real sure about the difference between a pessimist and optimist, I want to tell you a little story. A friend of mine went to a wise woman and said, I don't quite understand the difference between a pessimist and an optimist. Could you help me understand that difference? And this wise woman said, sure. You see those two little 7-year-olds over there playing? The one little 7-year-old boy is an optimist, the other one is a pessimist. I want you to take the 7-year-old pessimist and put him in a room full of wonderful things, computer, video tape machines with lots of video tapes, bicycle, all kinds of toys, stereo and leave him there for three days and then talk to him and see what his views of the world are. And then I want you to take the optimist and put him in a room that is full of only horse manure. And at the end of three days talk to him and see if you understand what an optimist is. So my friend did that, put the pessimist in a room full of wonderful toys and put the optimist in a room with nothing in it except for horse manure. At the